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Dumont Shade Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes
Dumont Senior Center, Monday, Feb 11, 2013 7:30pm

Sunshine Law: The Dumont Shade Tree Commission has complied with the open public meeting act, having sent notice to The Record, Ridgewood news and filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Borough's Official Bulletin Board

Present:, Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Tom Fisichella, Sally Tayeb

Guests: Tara Barker, Kathy Sheridan Parrish, Joe Uhlich CTE

Absent: Ryan Metz Council Liaison Bill Brophy

- 1- Motion to approve the previous January meeting minutes by Tom and second by Abbie. All approve.
- 2- **DSTC seminar** held 1-28-13 at the Senior Center 7:30pm. Joe Uhlich Certified Tree Expert (CTE) led presentation. He prepared and presented topics for tree maintenance and safety, particular to severe weather events. He presented the 5 signs of tree problems, discussed tree maintenance, and best practices for healthy tree-scape. Rob Gillies CTE was the co-presenter and covered topics – right tree right location and how to identify common species. He also discussed healthy tree practices.
Turnout was excellent – 26 attendees. Snacks, coffee, baklava, and hospitality will be divided among the members and expenses to be reimbursed.
Agreement to host semiannual seminars and appropriate topics.
Community outreach – discussion was entertained to produce video blogs about tree topics to be posted on You Tube and other outlets. Agreement to solicit topics and work on logistics for filming the short 1-2 minute segments.
Tree maintenance/management. Discussion; Tom presented report on last month's maintenance activity; lost trees, trims, and DPW activities. Significant improvements over previous periods. Excellent coordination with DPW. Discussion prep for spring activities and anticipation of more calls and requests. Tom and Ray are handling inspections. Discussion to include other commissioners to help with inspections. Discussion of reaching a level of tree replacement greater than trees lost in the coming years.
- 3- **New members** discussion and membership drive options.
- 5 **Email list** discussed updating and consolidating contact lists.
- 6 **Friends of the Shade Tree** progress has been stalled. Ryan has the final paperwork but has not attended the past several meetings. Agree to reach out to Ryan and close the process for FSTC. Sally agreed to contact Ryan and close out the paperwork.
- 7 **PSEG and NJTF Seminar sponsored by Bergen County Feb 15**– attended by Tom and Ray. Presentation of best practices for maintenance around power lines and storm preparation.
- 8 **DPW appreciation lunch.** DSTC members sponsored a luncheon for DPW members and Carolyn in appreciation for their tree work and support of DSTC. Successful lunch, including flowers for Carolyn Tara cupcakes. Donation from individual members and not part of DSTC expense.
- 9 **Arboretum discussion** – Plans are moving ahead for walkway and gazebo. New engineers are picking up the project. Ray will work with Engineers to coordinate and oversee the project. Discussed donation from D'Angelos Farms and will use their request

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as a framework for other charitable and memorial donations. Sally has picked up the blueprints for the arboretum walkway for review.

- 10 **I-Tree** report and update from Larry – 1,000 trees in the database; a significant milestone. Discussed urban forest characteristics and using the power of I-tree to coordinate new plantings, etc.
- 11 **Community outreach program** discussed– welcome wagon plan will be led by DSTC and incorporate other town groups and organizations. More follow up next meeting.

Adjourned 9:05pm